

## Job Corps – A Great Place to Recruit Trained and Ready Individuals

The Job Corps program is no longer the best kept secret in the Forest Service. Since 2006, the Eastern and Southern Regions of the Forest Service have successfully placed more than 100 Job Corps graduates in a variety of Forest Service positions – forestry, fire, maintenance, business management, and more.

Many individuals who join Job Corps, are between 18 to 24 years old, have already graduated high school, and have work experience. They are pursuing a new career opportunity and vocational training.

“These are highly motivated young people who are ready to go anywhere to gain work experience and build a career,” says *Clara Johnson, Forest Service Job Corps Liaison*. “Just look to our Rising Stars as proof that Job Corps has provided the agency with some terrific talent.”

Job Corps is a federal program that serves teenagers and young adults, ages 16–24 and provides:

- Vocational and technical training
- GED programs and High School Diplomas
- Programs to aid entrance into Colleges and Universities
- Free housing, food, work clothes, healthcare
- Career counseling and transition support for up to six months upon graduation

## Four Reasons to Hire Job Corps Students

There are many reasons why building a strong connection with Job Corps makes sense for Forest Service hiring managers. Here are a few.

- 1** Vocationally trained young people with skills in fire, forestry, facilities maintenance, and business administration.
- 2** Graduates who are willing to relocate, anywhere, to gain experience.

**3** Thousands of graduates from which to choose.

**4** Ready-made internships through the Job Corps’ Work-Based Learning program, which offers training for students and helps managers accomplish project work.

## Hiring Authorities for Job Corps

There are a variety of hiring authorities that can make it easy to hire Job Corps students and graduates.

These include:

- **Public Lands Corps** – 640 hours of work training for non-competitive appointment
- **Pathways** – Internship Program
- **Schedule A** – People with Disabilities
- **1039** – part-time or intermittent
- **Unpaid Work Experience, Individuals with Disabilities** – Clients of State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies

“Job Corps is a great place to find future Forest Service employees. I learned about Job Corps students and their great training programs from a presentation Clara Johnson made to District Rangers. In the past year, I’ve hired two young people under the Work-Based Learning internship program. They came from the Schenk Job Corps Civilian Conservation Center and were enrolled in their Advanced Forestry Program. One young man, Dante Lewis-Sutton, is working in our recreation program. He’s done some prescribed burning for us and also got on a fire assignment to California. He is now certified for vehicle operations and as a sawyer. My staff and I go out of our way to provide a great work experience for these interns. And the investment is worth it.”

*Robert Fallon, District Ranger Marienville District, Allegheny National Forest*

## Job Corps Training Aligns with Forest Service Positions

Vocations Offered at Job Corps	Comparable Forest Service Positions
Forestry Conservation & Firefighting Advanced Forestry Advanced Fire and Wildland Management Urban Forestry	Forestry Technician/Aid Fisheries Aid Wildlife Tech/Aid Hydrological Aid/Technician Engineering Technician/Aid Forestry Technician (rec) Engineering Technician Archeology Tech/Aid Fire Technician Urban Forester
Office Administration	Office Automation Assistant Customer Service Representative Visitor Information Assistant Budget Performance & Accountability Trainee Conservation Education
Exterior Landscaping & Ornamental Landscaping	Urban Forester Landscape Architect Technician
Culinary Arts	Fire/Camp Crews
Heavy Equipment Operations, Heavy Construction Equipment Mechanic, Heavy Truck Driving – Straight & Tractor Trailer	Heavy Equipment Operator Facilities Maintenance Engineering Technician
Facilities Maintenance, Bricklaying, Carpentry, Cement Masonry, Construction Craft Laborer, Electrical, Floor Covering, Materials Handler, Painting, Plastering, Plumbing, Welding	Facilities Maintenance Engineering Technician
Computer Networking IT Essentials, Computer Technology	Computer Technician



## Rising Star – Johnny Walker

### Job Corps Graduate and Forest Service Employee

In November 2008, Johnny Walker (just one of many Rising Stars) began his career with Shawnee National Forest, Hidden Springs Ranger District, as a GS-3 Forestry/Fire Technician.

"I love the adventure of my work... each day brings a new challenge," he said.

Johnny has assisted in the prescribe burning of 3,200 acres on the forest. He has been on five assignments with the Midewin Hotshot crew and spent 30 days in Alaska with the Hotshots.

Mr. Walker will obtain his associate's degree in forest science in 2014, at which time he will be promoted to a full-time, GS-5 Forestry/Fire Technician.

"I plan on making a lifelong career with the Forest Service. It's such an exciting opportunity with so many avenues – like being a smoke jumper!" he said.

*Cassandra Ramos, Lead Timber Marker,  
Mount Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest*



## USDA, Forest Service Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers

The USDA Forest Service manages 28 of the 128 Job Corps Civilian Conservation Centers under an Inter-agency Agreement with the Department of Labor. Fifteen of those Job Corps Centers are located in the Eastern and Southern Regions.

### Eastern Region

**Blackwell** Laona, WI (715) 674-2311

**Golconda** Golconda, IL (618) 285-6601

**Harpers Ferry** Harpers Ferry, WV (304) 728-5708

**Mingo** Puxico, MO (573) 222-3537

### Southern Region

**Cass** Ozark, AR (479) 667-3686

**Flatwoods** Coeburn, VA (276) 395-3384

**Frenchburg** Mariba, KY (606) 768-2111

**Great Onyx** Mammoth Cave, KY (270) 286-4514

**Jacobs Creek** Bristol, TN (423) 878-4021

**Lyndon B. Johnson** Franklin, NC (828) 524-4446

**Oconaluftee** Cherokee, NC (828) 497-5411

**Ouachita** Royal, AR (501) 767-2707

**Pine Knot** Pine Knot, KY (606) 354-2176

**Schenck** Pisgah Forest, NC (828) 862-6100

**Treasure Lake** Indianahoma, OK (580) 246-3203



To learn more about Job Corps,  
visit [www.jobcorps.gov](http://www.jobcorps.gov)

### For More Information

Visit the Eastern Region at [www.fs.usda.gov/R9](http://www.fs.usda.gov/R9) and  
visit the Southern Region at [www.fs.usda.gov/R8](http://www.fs.usda.gov/R8).



United States Department of Agriculture



## USDA FOREST SERVICE EASTERN AND SOUTHERN REGION

# Hiring Job Corps Graduates



Forest  
Service

Publication  
Number FS-R9-002

Publication  
Date (11/14)